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How to Make it Through Your First Year

College is tough, and no one expects you to be able to know exactly what you're doing. However, with a little help, you will be on your way to navigating college all on your own!

I have attached three "How to" documents for you. Since I survived my first year, I thought that I would include some tips that I think you would find helpful. Also note that you can meet people this way too! College is a big place and, honestly, you never know when or where you might meet someone new! Make a friend on the bus or invite someone out for ice cream, it will be fun!

How to take the Blacksburg Transit to the UCB Kroger

Living on campus has its challenges. One of the biggest challenges is not having a car. Luckily, you can ride the Blacksburg Transit all around Blacksburg for free! The Blacksburg Transit can take you to many places, including Kroger, the Math Emporium, and Christiansburg.

Your Hokie Passport

- 1. Leave your residence hall and walk to Burruss Hall
- 2. Once you have arrived at Burruss Hall, wait at the bus stop for the University Mall Shuttle (UMS) or University City Boulevard (UCB) bus.
 - Tip: The name of the bus route will be projected on the screen of the bus as it approches. Make sure to pay attention to that so you can find the proper bus.
- **3.** When the UMS or UCB bus arrives, approach the bus with your Hokie Passport in hand. You may get on the bus once the driver has opened the doors.
 - **Remember:** You will need to show your Hokie Passport to the bus driver to get on the bus for free. Otherwise, it costs 50 cents.
- **4.** Make sure you get off at the stop closest to Kroger. To request a stop, pull down on the yellow rope that is hung alongside the windows.
 - If you take the UMS bus, it is your best bet to get off at the Math Emporium and walk over to the Kroger. Kroger is to the right of the Emporium once you get off the bus.
 - If you take the UCB bus, you will want to get off at the stop across the street from Kroger. This stop is nearby the restaurant Macados.
- **5.** When you are finished shopping at Kroger, go outside and walk back to the bus stop that you got off at. The bus should arrive within 5-10 minutes.
 - **Remember:** Follow step 3 to get on the bus again
- **6.** Once you have made it back to campus, walk to back to your residence hall and share your good snacks with your roommates to win brownie points.

How to Get a Giant Chocolate Ice Cream Cone

College can be hard sometimes. Treat yourself to an ice cream cone when you're sad. You can also bring a friend or a date to make it more fun!

Your Hokie passport

1. Leave your residence hall and walk over to Deets Place. Deets Place is located underneath D2 Dining Hall.

- Tip: If you are having trouble finding Deets or D2, here is a link to a campus map: http://www.maps.vt.edu/PDF/campus-map-highres.pdf
- 2. Once you've arrived at Deets, walk up to the ice cream counter and tell the employee you'd like a double scoop chocolate ice cream cone
 - Tip: The ice cream tastes best in a waffle cone. Plus, the waffle cone is bigger than the cake cone, so you will get more ice cream
- 3. Pay for your giant chocolate ice cream cone with your Hokie passport
- 4. Enjoy!

How to Pick-Up a Package from Mail Services

If you are receiving a package to your residence hall through USPS, it will arrive at Mail Services. Otherwise, if the package is UPS or FedEx, it will arrive at your door instead.

Your Hokie passport

- 1. Walk to Mail Services. It is located in Owens Hall. If you are having trouble finding it, here is a link to a campus map: http://www.maps.vt.edu/PDF/campus-map-highres.pdf
- 2. Approach the counter at Mail Services. When someone arrives to assist you, hand them your Hokie passport and tell them what residence hall you live in
 - Note: When I lived on campus, I would hand the assistant my Hokie passport and say "I live in Johnson Hall"
- 3. Sign your name on the little screen they hand you
- **4.** Take your package back to your residence hall to see what goodies you got.